



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Timothy Q. Purdon
District of North Dakota

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 29, 2010
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nd/>

CONTACT: BETH LANG
PHONE: (701) 530-2420
FAX: (701) 530-2421

Belcourt Man Pleads Guilty to Aggravated Sexual Abuse

BISMARCK - United States Attorney Timothy Q. Purdon announced that on September 28, 2010, **Garrett L. DeCoteau**, 35, of Belcourt, North Dakota, pleaded guilty before United States District Court Judge Daniel L. Hovland to a charge of aggravated sexual abuse.

On September 13, 2009, DeCoteau caused a victim to engage in a sexual act by threatening or placing the victim in fear of death, serious bodily injury or kidnapping.

The charge of aggravated sexual abuse carries a statutory maximum penalty of life imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Bureau of Indian Affairs - Turtle Mountain Agency.

Sentencing for DeCoteau has been scheduled for December 29, 2010, in United States District Court in Minot, North Dakota, at 2:00 p.m.

Assistant United States Attorney Brandi Sasse Russell is prosecuting the case.

-end-